# The Lions' Pride

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## Mites infest freshman dorms

By Ashley Reynolds
Contributing Writers

Photo courtesy of wikicommons

Warning: do not hug the freshmen. Scabies have infested the freshman dorms, starting in Snyder then spreading to the others.

Scabies, a small mite that burrows beneath the skin, cause red welts on the skin that look like chicken pox. The welts are caused by the body's allergic reaction to the mites. Because the mites themselves leave no marks, it can take two to six weeks for symptoms to show.

"I might have it and not even know," says freshman Alejandra Moreno. Alejandra lives on the second floor of Henderson, where two cases of the scabies have been reported. So far, five cases have been reported in Henderson, and an unknown number in the other residence halls. At least one case exists in each freshman building.

Scabies are typically spread through close body contact, usually by prolonged touch or sexual activity. This is why they spread quickly between close friends, family, and sexual partners. However, they can also spread through sharing towels, sheets, blankets, or jackets.

Scabies cause severe itching and red sores or blisters. The first symptom is severe itching, particularly at nighttime.

The freshman who haven't shown symptoms yet are frantically washing their blankets and sheets in hot water. This will rid the bedding of any mites that may have been on them.

Freshmen, please don't hog all the washers in your residence hall; others need to wash their bedding to prevent the spread of scabies. Put off your other laundry if you can, and don't touch other people's sheets.

Upperclassmen, keep an eye out for welts on your skin. No cases have been reported in the other buildings so far, but the entire school needs to be aware of the problem.

If you think you have scabies, contact a doctor. They can check your skin for the mites and prescribe you medicine. The mites won't go away on their own; you need special medicine for it. You can also take over the counter itching cream to ease symptoms. Don't use these creams until after the doctor has seen your rashes though; they change the appearance and make scabies harder to diagnose. In the meantime you can use Benadryl or other over the counter allergy medicines. If you know someone with scabies and you've been in contact with them, wash all of your clothes and don't touch others. You might have scabies and not be showing symptoms yet.

With proper treatment, the scabies should go away quickly. Symptoms may persist for a short time afterwards, but will be gone in a few days to two weeks. Keep taking medication until your doctor says otherwise or you will be reinfested.

Good luck and stay clean.


**Check out what's inside**

**Page 2**
Grad School process

**Page 3**
Strides to knock off costs
Science Speaker

**Page 5**
Fall from Glory
Winter Wonderland

**Page 6**
Green Rabbit Press
Formal

**Page 7**
Movie Review:Rise of the guardians

**Page 8**
Rain get washed out
NHL


## Bumpy, but safe?

By Jessica Miller
Contributing Writer

The students and staff of Saint Leo University (SLU) have been very surprised when they returned from their fall semester holiday to find several safety additions made to the roads on campus. The added speed bumps and medians have been a hot topic of conversation. There are numerous amounts of trucks, cars, vans, and cycles which pass the road leading from Lewis Hall to the Residence Halls located in the back campus every day. These drivers and passengers have their own questions about what is the need for the road safety precautions and what will be in store for the future of the streets at Saint Leo University.

"It is ridiculous. They (the speed bumps and medians) are needed, but they slightly over did it," said Emily Holman.

One of the major concerns about the street safety precautions is whether or not they necessary in the first place. The wind roads barely fit two vehicles or support traffic that flows through on a weekly schedule. It can get dangerous quickly on the streets for commuters, professors, visitors, and staff. Thus, the safety precautions are as vital to look at and revise as much as fire exits and thefts. When it came to safety precautions, Olaa Jamalallail said, "I think they have to (take precautions)."

The safety precautions may seem to be overdone, but they are not planned and executed without reason. This is one of the many things to keep in mind. However, when there are car accidents on campus, it can be easy to overcompensate in order to try and achieve the best safety possible.

Several students and staff feel that the speed bumps and median are helpful to the drivers that ride on campus, but with variations.
Andrew Introne said, "It is obnoxious - the speed bumps on the crosswalks are needed, but the others are overdone."

The crosswalks are clearly defined with the raised speed bumps; whereas before they were harder for drivers to see. Now, with the new additions, drivers are forced to take that extra second to correctly check for pedestrians before riding over the crosswalks. With the "hustle and bustle" of the daily campus activates, it is easy for drivers and pedestrians to get caught up with schedules and not check before crossing. All of the new designs are made to help increase those possibly life-saving moments for drivers and pedestrians by forcing added seconds. The median, so cleverly placed at the curve outside the Bowman Activity Center and Gymnasium, serve as another forceful way of slowing vehicles down; although, it has had complaints of being too small or too tight of a turn for larger size vehicles.

In addition, some students and staff feel like the speed on the roads are not as much of a problem as the main entrance is to main campus. The entrance has a beautiful array of flowers and shrubs that enhance the two standing pillars. However, there are also some concerns about the blind spot this décor creates when there is such a tight turn in and out of campus.

Kayleigh Pedersen said, "I like the speed bumps and medians, but I think they can do more. (Because of the main entrance) I am tempted to go through the Marmion and Synder entrance to get to main campus."

Perhaps, in the future, students and staff shall see more improvements to the roads and to the main entrance. There are students that say safety is not a concern at SLU and the funds are better spent elsewhere to benefit the community. As time moves by, the community will grow together in safety and other improvements along the way.

# Opinion

## Are you ready for the grad school process?

**By Meghan Mathias**
Contributing Writer

Graduation day is rapidly approaching and for the majority, if not all of seniors, this means that they are overjoyed with the completion of their four-year degree and have a decision to make.

The decision consists of two choices of what they have the ability to do after they finish their time at Saint Leo. The first choice is that they can immediately try to go into the workforce and find a job that is compatible with their degree, which is a great option to choose. The second choice consists of two words that are ominous: "graduate school," or grad school as it is most commonly referred to. Grad school can be an overwhelming process, but it is one that is manageable with the correct information and guidance from an advisor and the Career Planning Center.

Cathy Wise, Assistant Director of the Career Planning Center, says that grad school is "a process that should really begin in your sophomore year," but that doesn't mean that you cannot start later. Once one declares their major, they should begin to explore the career options that they have and see if the goals that they have require a Master's Degree. If the goals that they have do require having a Master's Degree, then the process begins.

Research is the first step in the process. It consists of narrowing down the type of Master's degree that wants to be obtained and looking at the variety of schools where it is offered. Wise says, "looking at data is instrumental in making the decision" and will help immensely when trying to make final decisions about earning a Master's Degree.

Once the research is complete, then testing has to commence. The Graduate Record Examination, or GRE, is the general test that students will take but there are specific subject tests such as the MCAT (Medical College Administration Test) for those that are interested in medical school and also the LSAT (Law School Administration Test) for those that want to go to law school. The tests costs $160 and there are a multitude of dates that it is scheduled for which can be found at www.ets.org,where all of the general information about the test can also be found.

The application for grad school requires your resume and a personal statement. The resume that admissions are looking for is a student who is well rounded, meaning that they have both the academic portion as well as extracurricular activities that showcase leadership skills. The personal statement is the most appealing to the admissions committee since it gives insight into why someone want to be accepted into their program and also highlights personal experiences in a person's life that make them a unique individual who will make their program improve by their participation. Getting into a specific program, one must remember that it is "not about you, but about the university and how you can enhance their program and provide something unique" according to Cathy Wise.

For more information about the process that grad school entails, contact your advisor or Cathy Wise at the Career Planning Center.

## Are finals really that bad?

**By Taylor McGillis**
Online Editor

Finals week is typically one of the most stressful weeks of the academic year for students—but is it really all that stressful?

I may be on the contrary here, but I am going to go out on a limb and say it is the complete opposite. Assuming most students are taking a full 15 credit course load, what other time during the year do students only have five classes over the course of four days? The answer is never.

In my circumstance this semester, I have two finals. Online classes are set up to only be eight weeks long, so I already knocked out one course by taking one. That means I have a whole four-day period to study for four final exams. Also, some professors on campus allow students to be exempt from the final exam if they reach a certain grade criteria. That knocked out two more finals. That left me with two finals to take in a week, and plenty of time to study. Stressful? Not the least bit.

Another thing that eases the stress from finals week is that the University does a pretty good job of not allowing extracurricular activities to take place during that span of four days. I've experienced the student-athlete lifestyle and current student-athletes would agree with me that finals week can be less stressful than regular weeks because practices, weight lifting sessions, conditioning sessions, and games are all put on hold. What other week is extracurricular activities paused to free up time for studying? There isn't one.

Events such as Midnight Breakfast lessen the burden even more, and make for a quite pleasant experience during finals week. What other time during the year can students get into the dining hall without using a swipe? The answer is never. That means there is no need for a late night Taco Bell run that leaves me standing at the register with my debit card praying that the transaction goes through on my depleted bank account.

I am not questioning the academic difficulty of this fine institution by any means. There are weeks during the year where I am overloaded with tests, coursework, projects, and extracurricular events. Finals week just does not happen to be one of them. This "dreaded" week during the year is actually one of my favorites. I find that there is ample time for sleeping, napping, socializing, and still enough time for some studying. What other time during the year can students fit all that into their schedule? Never.


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# Opinion

## The great affect that a secies can have

By Cheyenne Johnson
Contributing Writer

Dr. Iain Duffy and Dr. Chris Miller, two of Saint Leo University's very own biologist from the SLU Math and Science Department, spoke on Friday Nov. 30 about "Mauritia Flexuosa- A Matter Of Gender?"

At the beginning of the presentation, Dr. Miller gave students a brief history on what exactly Mauritia Flexuosa is.

Miller worked in Peru with this species; its common name is the Aguaje Palm. This palm tree is found throughout the Amazon Basin. It is very dominant in swamps and can grow up to 40 feet high.

Miller goes on to explain that this palm has a very important economical, as well as ecological, importance.

Economically, this palm produces fruits that are harvested and widely consumed in this area. It is the highest source in Vitamin A in the entire world; which is beneficial for the eyes. The fruit also contains oils that are similar to olive oil.

"Fruit is the reason that in this area of Peru there are so many beautiful women," said Miller, explaining one of Peru's ancient folk tales. He goes on to say that men are warned against eating too much of this fruit or they will start to grow womanly features.

Ecologically, in seasons where most of the food source is scarce, Aguaje fruit continues to grow. This provides a food source for the animals in this area. The palm is also a very good nesting habitat for birds due to the fact that the trunk is very hard for predators to climb.

There are also very large Carbon reserves in these palms. As the leaves drop to the forest floor below, they break down and build up deep peat soils, which then give off Carbon Dioxide.

As Dr. Miller hands the floor over to Dr. Duffy, Duffy begins to explain one problem with the Aguaje Palm.

The problem is that so many people and animals depend on the fruits from the palm, which means they are constantly being cut down. Another issue is that only the female palms produce fruit, the males are only there to fertilize them.

Scientists cannot tell a female from a male until they are about 15-20 years old. This means that people cannot plant predominantly females to allow for continual harvesting of the fruits.

Dr. Duffy and Dr. Miller came up with an idea and decided to see if, through genetics, they could determine a male from a female Aguaje palm.

The problem was that Aguaje palms are very susceptible to cold weather; which is why they are most predominant in North America.

Dr. Duffy tells the students that, after extensive research, he found a place located in Saint Petersburg, Florida called Tropilab INC. Duffy went to this corporation and purchased 50 Aguaje palm seeds. He also traveled to Miami to obtain leaf samples from a rare grower of Aguaje palms in order to extract DNA.

Using Gel Electrophoresis, Duffy discovered that some of the DNA produced a certain band, while others did not. Doing some more extensive research, Duffy concluded that it seems to be the female Aguaje palm that produces the extra band.

As of this moment there is destructive harvesting of these palms in Peru. Tamshiyaco- Tahuayo Reserve is a one million acre reserve managed by the local people, which prohibit the harvesting of Aguaje.

There is also a Rainforest Conservation Fund that promotes the replanting of the Aguaje palm. It is possible that if Dr. Duffy and Dr. Miller's research is heard, there could be the replanting of primarily female Aguaje palms, which will then help keep this species alive in the future.

At this moment the Rainforest Conservation Fund is promoting the participation and willingness of local communities to help in this process. The Fund is also promoting doing research on the Aguaje palm so that people understand how important it is that the species does not die off.

Duffy and Miller conclude with the statement that there is potential undergraduate work in this field, and whatever student is interested should look into the Aguaje palm, and consider the opportunity of replanting many Aguaje all over Peru.

## Strides to knock off costs

By Racheljoy Capitola
Copy Editor

College can be expensive. Look at the price of tuition at Saint Leo University which is one of the cheapest private schools in Florida: tuition is $18,700 without including meal plans, fees, and room and board charges.

So it is not surprising that the costs of going to college can pose a great challenge for education-seeking students, especially the ones who come from low-income families.

Take Stock in Children is an organization that focuses on trying to find ways to help promising low-income students with their education. They provide mentors, support for success, and scholarships for students who meet their requirements. Their main website provides success stories and accountability reports to prove their significance. The organization has been working to better education since 1995 with great effort.

The current goal for Take Stock in Children is to raise at least $1 million for scholarships that will support more low-income students. On Dec. 8, there will be a Strides For Education 5k Walk/Run taking place in various areas around the state: Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Palm Beach, and more. In order to attend, a person must pay a registration fee of $25 which will ensure them a running spot, a t-shirt, and a goody bag. The start time for races varies from as early as 8 in the morning to 5 in the afternoon depending on where a person chooses to race at.

For anyone who cringes at the thought of running or walking for hours on a Saturday, there is a second option. The organization offers a Cyber Walk in which people can donate money through the internet to help with fundraising efforts. Volunteers are also encouraged to take part by signing up on the official website. There are many opportunities to become involved in this community event, and it just takes a few clicks of a button to register online.

Most students understand the difficulties of paying for college from their own experiences this year. The upcoming event gives hard-working individuals the chance to finally go to school despite their adversity, so anyone who is interested should put on those sneakers and prepare to cross the finish line for a small donation that will make a significant impact.

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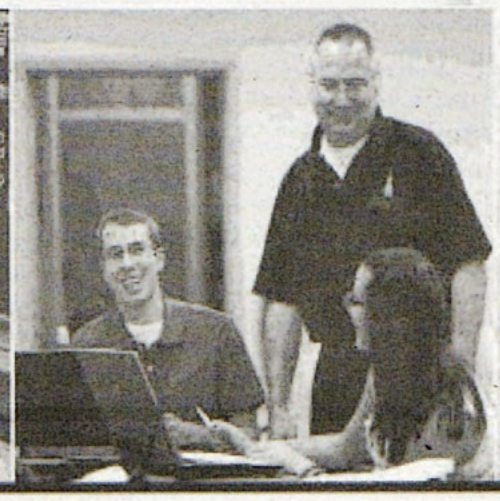

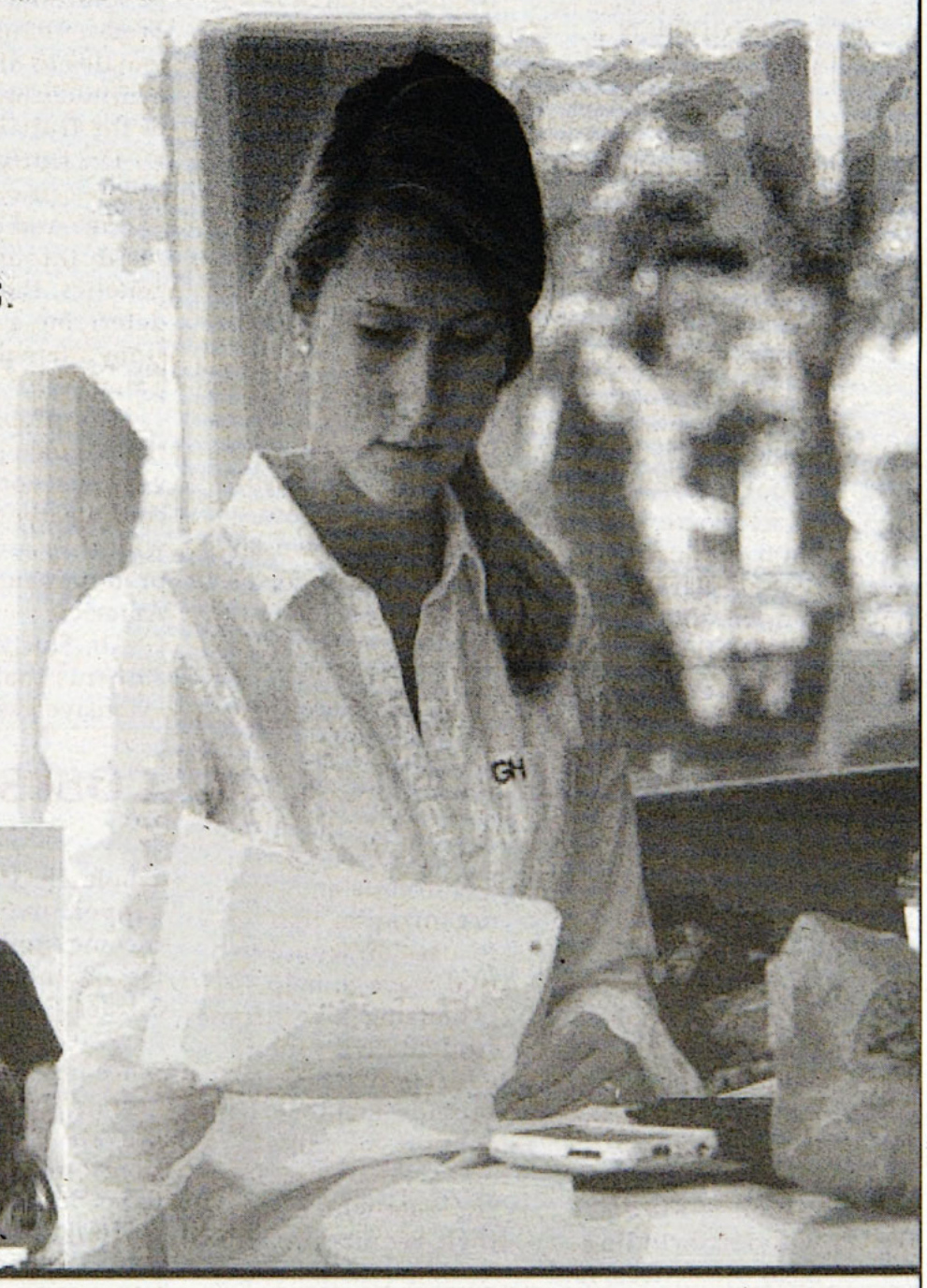

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# Campus News

## Fall from glory: another incident in Henderson

By Ashley Reynolds
Contributing Writer

Just before Thanksgiving break, a freshman fell from her third-floor window. The accident, which took place outside of the Henderson Residence Hall, occurred when she was trying to scale from one window to another.

"I didn't see her fall, but I saw her on the ground right before the ambulance got there," said an anonymous source. "She wasn't moving. I thought she might have had an asthma attack or something. I never would have guessed she fell from the third floor."

The source says the girl's name is Nicole, and she lives in Henderson on the third floor. The source saw the ambulance from her window. Friends and worried bystanders stood around Nicole as the EMTs approached. They checked Nicole's pulse and nodded before carrying her off.

None of the freshmen in the building seem to know the details of what happened. Some say the girl was drunk, others say she was completely sober. The details of her injuries are also not entirely known. It is been difficult to get details; no one wants to directly ask Nicole or the RA. Residence life did not wish to comment on the incident either. As for security, they said that incidents like this are confidential.

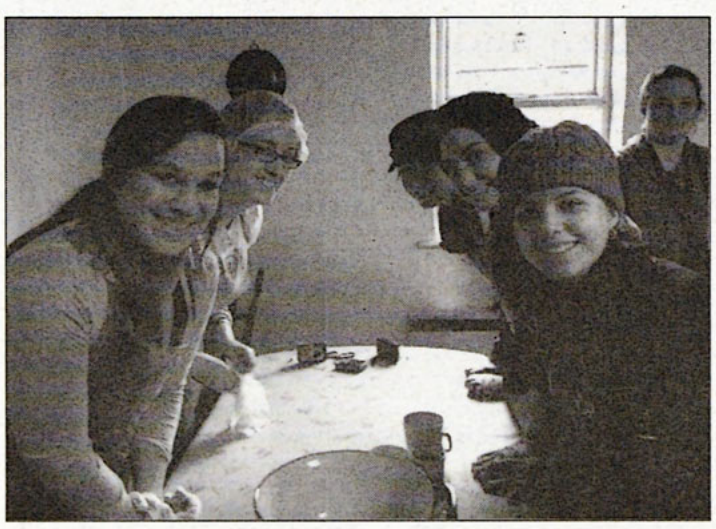
It is not the first tragedy that has happened in Henderson this semester. In September, they mourned the death of Angelic Findley. Now they have to deal with the pressure of their first finals, in addition to rumors of a scabies infestation that the school has not released any information on. Several girls who previously lived in the hall are going to start commuting in the spring for a variety of reasons.

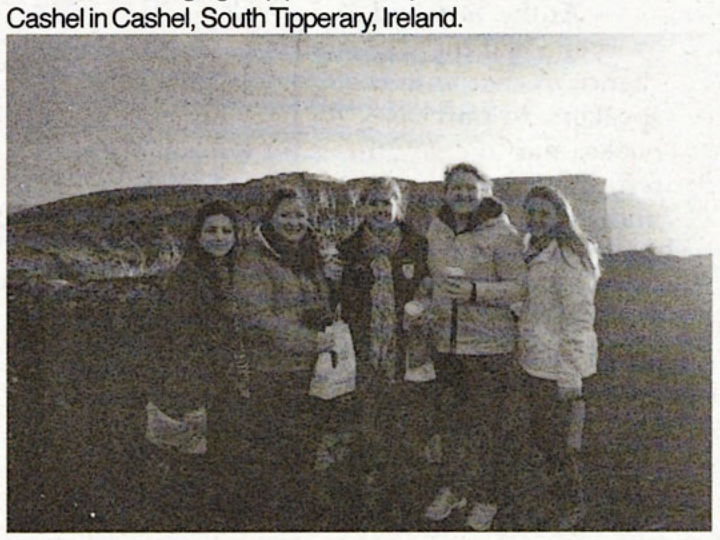
"I'm just going to commute until the end of the semester," one resident joked.

With only one week left in the semester, hopefully the girls can hold themselves together long enough to make it home without another incident. As for next semester, we will just have to hope nothing else happens, though in reality, it probably will.

Group member brace the cold in Connemara National Park

The Erin Go Bragh group poses for a picture outside the Rock of Cashel in Cashel, South Tipperary, Ireland.





David and Brook McGinnis pose outside the Rock of Cashel, both Professors at Saint Leo University

Sarah Coffman, Stephanie Gilbert and Jonathan Leadbetter at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

## Winter formal in wonderland

By Danielle Cortes
Contributing Writer

Students, teachers, and guests eagerly crowded around Teco Hall located in the Donald R. Tapia School of Business with hopes of hearing enlightening literature pieces. On Nov. 29, a two hour poetry reading known as the Green Rabbit Press Reading was hosted by Sigma Tau Delta and the English Department. The groups invited teachers and special guests to perform.

Nearly every seat was taken in the room. Students attended for a variety of reasons.

"I like poetry and my creative writing teacher was there," said Freshman Annie Hays.

"I was at the event because my friend asked me to attend," said Freshman Kenna Dieffenwierth.

The reading began with Kurt Wilt who introduced several important publications such as The Sandhill Review and the Green Rabit which are available either for free or for a small price at the school. Afterwards, he moved on to reading one of his own works with a musical instrument to accompany him.

The rest of the evening followed up with equally talented and unique writers. The speakers featured were Gianna Russo, Patrick Crerand, Brooke King, Anthony Esposito, Joshua Davis, Cole Bellany, Brooke King, Greg Robinson, and

# Campus News

## Students gather for the Green Rabit Press Reading

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The rest of the evening followed up with equally talented and unique writers. The speakers featured were Gianna Russo, Patrick Crerand, Brooke King, Anthony Esposito, Joshua Davis, Cole Bellany, Brooke King, Greg Robinson, and Brittany Rathbone. All of these individuals had some connection with the University as either a teacher or a student.

Each writer made an impact. Russo performed some of the poems from her book Moonflower. Joshua Davis shared several dramatic monologues. King was especially highly favored with her war poems, which gave a rare glimpse into what it was like to be a female soldier on the front lines.

"The war poems stood out to me the most. They were pretty intense and sad," said Dieffenwierth .

"Brooke King definitely jumped out. All her work is so powerful, it just grabs you and shakes you violently. I don't know how else to describe it," said Hays.

At the very end, everyone had the chance to chat with the speakers, to purchase books, and to enjoy the refreshments laid out in the corner. It was a well-received event.

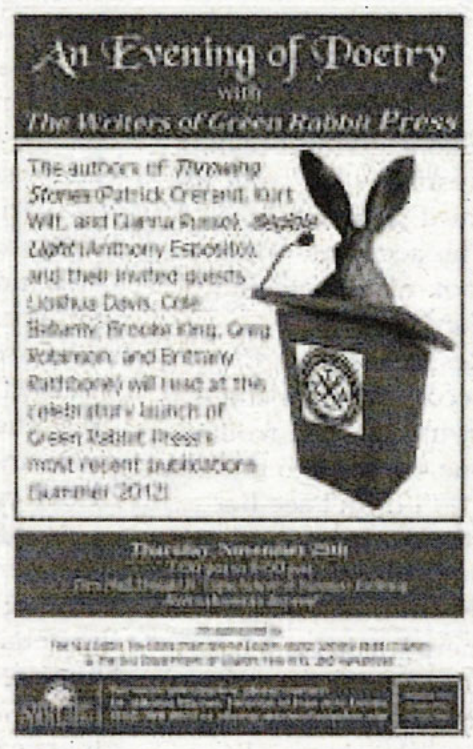
"The event was nice, I can't think of anything to make it better," said Dieffenwierth.

"All the work presented was amazing, and I can't think of anything to change. Even the food was great," said Hays.

It will not be the last reading to take place on campus.

"Poems are a bad habit," said Esposito.

It has become a habit which he and many others cannot stop using in order to express their creativity, so everyone can expect more from these writers to come.




## Continuation from page 5

Brittany Rathbone. All of these individuals had some connection with the University as either a teacher or a student.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Movie Review: Rise of the Guardian

By Jessica Miller
Contributing Writer

Rise of the Guardians is a 2012 American 3D computer-animated fantasy-adventure film based on William Joyce's The Guardians of Childhood book series and The Man in the Moon short film by Joyce and Reel FX. Peter Ramsey directed the film, while Joyce and Guillermo del Toro were executive producers. Produced by DreamWorks Animation and distributed by Paramount Pictures, it was released on November 21, 2012, with mixed and critical reception.

Rise of the Guardians tells the story of a group of heroes with extraordinary abilities. When an evil spirit, known as Pitch, lays down the gauntlet to take over the world, the immortal Guardians must join forces for the first time to protect the hopes, beliefs, and imagination of children all over the world.

Set about 200 years after the book series, the film tells a story about the Guardians (North or Santa Claus, the Tooth Fairy, Bunnymund or the Easter Bunny, and the Sandman), who enlist Jack Frost to stop Pitch from engulfing the world in darkness. It features the voices of Chris Pine (Jack Frost), Alec Baldwin (Santa Claus), Hugh Jackman (The Easter Bunny), Isla Fisher (The Tooth Fairy) and Jude Law (Pitch).

The spirit of winter, Jack Frost, describes how he came to be hundreds of years ago, and how he wishes to know of his past life. In the present, he creates a snow day for the children of a small town. At the North Pole, North, better known as Santa Claus, is alerted that Pitch, the Bogeyman, has returned and is threatening childhood with fear. After summoning fellow Guardians the Tooth Fairy (Tooth), the Easter Bunny (Bunnymund), and the Sandman (Sandy), North learns from the Man in the Moon that they are to induct Jack as their new member. The Easter Bunny, although reluctant to include this mischievous trickster, dutifully brings Jack to North's headquarters and they attempt to swear him in. Jack, frustrated by centuries of isolation caused by children's disbelief in him, declines to join. Regardless, North persuades him to cooperate by explaining their mission and the looming threat of Pitch.

Although the film is based on the Joyce's book series, it contains differences from the books. The book series, begun in 2011, explains the origins of the characters, while the film takes place about 200 years after the books, and shows how the characters function in present time.

Joyce explained, "Because I don't want people to read the book and then go see the movie and go, 'Oh, I like the book better', and I also didn't want them to know what happens in the movie. And I also knew that during the progress of film production, a lot of things can change. So I wanted to have a sort of distance, so we were able to invoke the books and use them to help us figure out the world of the movie, but I didn't want them to be openly competitive to each other."

The idea for the Guardians came from Joyce's daughter who asked him "if he thought Santa Claus had ever met the Easter Bunny." The film includes a dedication to her, as well a song, "Still Dream" sung over the end credits.

This film is definitely a movie for all ages and brings back the Christmas spirit in all. This film receives high marks and comes highly recommended, especially for this holiday season. To all those who might feel as if they need a little reminder for this Christmas season, "You don't always have to see to believe."


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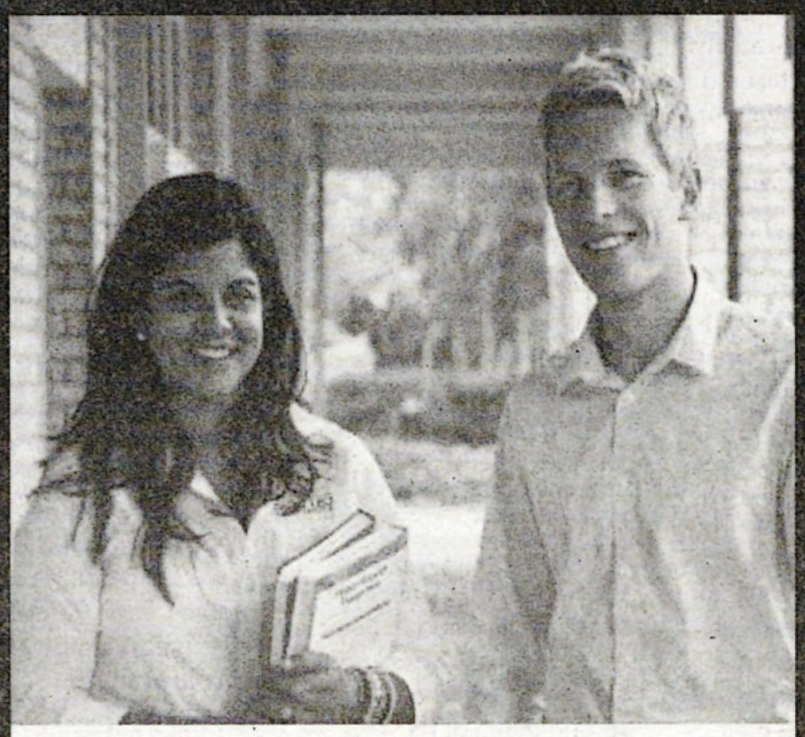

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# Sports

## Rain get washed out

**Corey Saccone**
**Contributing Writer**

The inaugural season for a sports organization usually has a positive effect on the community. For the Tampa Bay Rain, it was quite the opposite. Since 2011, the goal was to bring exciting, competitive basketball to the Tampa area. Unfortunately, things did not go as planned.

The ABA (American Basketball Association) is a competitive basketball league that was founded in 1967. The league competed with the NBA and formed teams all around the country. Aside from money, the biggest difference between the two leagues is the style of play. ABA teams tend to hit above the century mark often.

With 23 games left on the Rain's schedule, there will be no results to show for in the win-loss column, as the team has hung up its jerseys. During preseason, the team went 3-0, which eventually led to a 4-1 start in the regular season. The team averaged 116.4 points per contest and looked to be well on its way towards a successful season.

The roster consisted of 13 players, 10 of which were from the Tampa area. Former Saint Leo men's basketball player Walter Perkins was the starting center. The Rain was coached by 18-year NBA veteran Tree Rollins.

Like most situations, financial stability was the main issue. From the beginning, the feel for the organization started to decline, brought about by a conflict with arenas. The Rain played all three of its home games in EXPO Hall, which was supposed to be the home arena throughout the year. A week before the regular season started, which consisted of two weekend home games, the team switched locations to the MAC Center.

"Yeah, I kind of saw this happening," said Junior Chris Annarumma, who was in the midst of his apprenticeship with the Rain through Saint Leo's sport business program. "For me, it is still a resume builder, nonetheless."

Not only did the city of Tampa lose the Rain, but many jobs washed away, as well. Front office executives, players, coaches, stadium personnel, and interns all lost their positions. Owner Stephen Davis saw potential in this project for years to come as long as the community stayed involved with the team.

There is still hope for a potential buyer, but there are many hurdles to cross. If resumed, all away games will be canceled for the remainder of the schedule. Home games would continue starting on Jan. 4.

"I don't know a ton about what exactly happened, but I do know that they took a bigger hit money-wise than they thought they would, and that is the reason for shutting down," said Sophomore Eric Malta, who was also doing an apprenticeship with the Rain. "I can also say that they were hoping that an investor would take over the team, but that didn't pan out."

With the Orlando Magic being the closest basketball team, fans in the Tampa area will hope the Rain settle their troubles soon.

## NFL with Hewy, part two

**Matthew Hewitt**
**Advertising Manager**

Week 14 of the 2013 season is an important one, as most of the fantasy football leagues plan for the start of the playoffs. It is also a very crucial week for some NFL teams battling for a playoff spot. The games this Sunday, Dec. 9, will go as follows:

**St. Louis Rams at Buffalo Bills**

Coming off of their impressive win over the not-so-impressive Jaguars, the Bills plan to use their momentum going into their game on Sunday. The Rams have a little more momentum after winning in overtime last Sunday against the 49ers, avenging the two teams' tie earlier in the year. Ryan Fitzpatrick will be the difference, however, in a close game:
*Bills by 4*

**Baltimore Ravens at Washington Redskins**

Joe Flacco and company are coming off of a heartbreaking loss to Charlie Batch and the Steelers, and look to redeem themselves at the Redskins. Washington upsets the Ravens when RGIII helps his case for Rookie of the Year by leading his team to a victory over the AFC North-leading Ravens:
*Redskins by 7*

**Philadelphia Eagles at Tampa Bay Buccaneers**

Tampa Bay looks to keep its playoff hopes alive with the Eagles coming to town this Sunday. The Eagles are coming off of a loss to the New York Giants where the Eagles offense looked more impressive with Nick Foles at starting QB, but still came up short. It's their defense that will let them down this week, and will let Josh Freeman beat the struggling Eagles:
*Buccaneers by 7*

**San Diego Chargers at Pittsburgh Steelers**

The disappointing Chargers are set to play the Steelers this week after another loss against the Cincinnati Bengals last week. Charlie Batch and the Steelers will look to build on the confidence they gained after beating the Ravens, and ensure their wildcard spot for the playoffs:
*Steelers by 9*

**Chicago Bears at Minnesota Vikings**

This week the Bears fly to Minnesota to take on the Vikings. Fighting for a chance at the postseason, the Bears look to bounce back from their overtime loss in their previous game. Despite Adrian Peterson's best efforts, it won't be enough to spark his team into scoring much against the Bears' defense:
*Bears by 6*

**Atlanta Falcons at Carolina Panthers**

The Falcons come into this week's contest with some extra rest from playing last Thursday, when they lost to their division rivals; the Saints. The Panthers have struggled this year, especially last week when they lost to the then-1-10 Kansas City Chiefs. Cam Newton will make too many mistakes, and the Falcons cruise to a victory:
*Falcons by 17*

**Dallas Cowboys at Cincinnati Bengals**

The Cowboys won last week against the Eagles, as Tony Romo has performed well this season, averaging around 300 yards a game. Andy Dalton has had a decent season, as well, and has led the Bengals to seven wins so far. Dalton will continue to win ballgames, and the Cowboys defense will let them down late in the game:
*Bengals by 6*

**Kansas City Chiefs at Cleveland Browns**

In one of the least interesting matches on this week's slate of games, the Kansas City Chiefs head to Cleveland to take on the Browns. The Chiefs did win their second game of the season last week, and Brady Quinn looked better than usual. It won't be enough to stop the rookie combination of Brandon Weeden and Trent Richardson, as Cleveland will edge the Chiefs:
*Browns by 3*

**Tennessee Titans at Indianapolis Colts**

Andrew Luck led his team to a very impressive come-from-behind victory against the Detroit Lions last week. Colts fans have gotten what they were looking for out of the number one overall pick so far: a chance for a spot in the playoffs and eight wins. The Titans haven't fared as well, and are currently third in the AFC South. This week, the Titans will lose their third in a row:
*Colts by 10*

**Miami Dolphins at San Francisco 49ers**

Recently named starter, Colin Kaepernick looks to defend his home field this week against the Dolphins. Ryan Tannehill has struggled at times in his rookie campaign, partly due to the lack of a supporting cast. His and the Dolphins struggles will continue, and lose their fifth of their last six games:
*49ers by 9*

For the rest of the predictions, please visit www.pride-online.net. And make sure to follow our NFL "expert" on